

Indiana Department of Education, Center for Exceptional Learners Opportunity for High Ability Professionals

The Indiana Department of Education, Center for Exceptional Learners (through the Indiana High Ability Field Coach Project) is looking for additional High Ability Field Coaches from all areas of the state to provide on-site assistance to local schools. These coaches will:

- Receive instruction in the specific process that has been developed to assist schools in complying with Indiana requirements and developing best practices in high ability education.
- Receive on-the-job training and mentoring from experienced coaches on facilitating the process in schools. They must be able to travel.
- Provide leadership support (technical assistance) to Indiana school corporations seeking assistance in developing their services for high ability students.
 - Meet with school corporation (LEA) decision makers, at their invitation, about the purpose and specific parameters of the project
 - Assist the LEA in reviewing their current documents, procedures, student performance data and practices relating to education for high ability students
 - Facilitate the development by district stakeholders of a self-assessment of the current strengths, challenges, plans and priorities related to the services for students with high abilities
 - Provide additional and follow-up support when possible to meet specific goals as outlined by the self-assessment.
- Be accountable to the project for keeping records of meetings and documentation.

The High Ability Field Coach Project is seeking applications and nominations for these High Ability Field Coaches. While these Coaches will have expertise, the model for the project is NOT one of an expert consultant who goes into an LEA and recommends a specific High Ability Program. The model is one of a facilitator/ coach with expertise in High Ability services who goes and helps an LEA develop local high ability leadership, specifically to identify ways to improve services according to the needs and resources in their schools and in compliance with Indiana requirements. Please apply or nominate any individuals who have the following characteristics and qualifications:

- Established facilitation, collaboration, and professional development skills
- Understanding of role as one with expertise who is providing technical assistance NOT as expert coming in to tell them how they should design or run their program.
- Strong knowledge of high ability education; license/ endorsement required (or equivalent)
- Significant experience in school setting as an administrator, coordinator or direct responsibility for high ability instruction
- Strong communication and team-building skills
- Availability: up to 2 days of training per year, up to nine school visits per year for each assigned school (some flexibility to accommodate participating schools); multiple year commitment desired. The coaches will not be employees of the Department of Education nor of Ball State but will receive a stipend per meeting and expenses for the training and

the field visits. The number of schools assigned depends upon demand and coach availability.

Please submit nominations of individuals you feel have the required skills by emailing Ginny Burney at vhburney@bsu.edu. To apply for service as an Indiana High Ability Field Coach, submit a resume and cover letter indicating specific relevant qualifications as outlined above; include persons we can contact for references. Please send resumes and cover letters to: Virginia Burney, Ph.D. c/o Indiana Department of Education, Center for Exceptional Learners, High Ability, 151 W. Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Questions? Email Ginny Burney with phone numbers and best times for her to call.